

First Selectman's Report
April 11, 2016

"Only In Your State" Identifies Simsbury as "The Best Town in America!"

We recently learned that a website named "Only In Your State" has named Simsbury "The Best Town in America." Recognizing that Simsbury has also made the top ten lists for Best Towns In Connecticut, Best Towns To Live In The United States, Best Schools In Connecticut and Best Cities For Young Families, the website article pointed to our many attractions, including the Flower Bridge, Heublein Tower, and the "enchanted 84-mile Farmington Canal Heritage Trail" as just a few of Simsbury's long list of distinguishing features. If you are interested in seeing the article, visit:

<http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/connecticut/best-town-ct/>

Town of Simsbury Budget Calendar for the FY 2017 Budget

Budget season is still underway in the Town of Simsbury. The Board of Finance will hold a second Public Budget Hearing on April 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the main meeting room at Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT and a town referendum will likely be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2016.

Information about the budget can be found on the Town of Simsbury's website at www.simsbury-ct.gov – just click on the "how do I" tab and look for "find budget information." I invite residents to participate in this important process by attending meetings or reaching out to your elected officials.

Spring Cleaning in Simsbury

Help us keep Simsbury one of the Top 10 Best Places to Live!

Come join me, the Board of Selectmen and many, many volunteers clean up the bike trails around town on April 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This trail cleanup day is organized by the Farmington Valley Trails Council. Thanks to President of the Farmington Valley Trails Council, Bruce Donald, and all the volunteers who help keep our trails in great shape! Please visit the Farmington Valley Trails Council website to volunteer to help: <http://fvgreenway.org/events/Event.Detail.asp?id=1452564805>

See you there!

As we get to our spring cleaning, please help us keep our trails the pride of the Farmington Valley by not disposing of lawn debris, grass clippings, or brush in the State DOT Right of Way next to the bike trail. Very much appreciated!

Hometown Hero Nominations

The Town of Simsbury is currently seeking nominations for recipients of this year's Hometown Hero Awards. Since 1986, Simsbury has recognized outstanding individuals for their service to the community. If you would like to nominate an individual or group for this award, please (1) write a letter a letter of nomination explaining why this individual should receive this award; or (2) Complete a nomination form available at Town Hall, Senior Center and the Library. Forms and criteria for nominations may also be found online at:

<http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/home/news/nominate-a-2016-hometown-hero>

Autism Awareness Month

Wondering why there is blue light and large blue puzzle piece at Eno? April 2nd was World Autism Day. Adopted by the United Nations in 2007, World Autism Day was established to "shine a bright light on autism as a public health priority." Simsbury keeps the blue light at Eno lit throughout the month of April to help spread awareness and understanding of autism.

Presidential Preference Primary on April 26, 2016

A Presidential Preference Primary is being held in Connecticut on April 26, 2016. All four polling places – Henry James, Latimer Lane, Tariffville, and Tootin' Hills – will be open for the Primary from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please note that there is no Election Day voter registration for the primaries. To find information about registering to vote, please visit the town website at:

<http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/registrar-of-voters>

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is April 30th

The Town of Simsbury, in conjunction with the Towns of Avon, Canton, Granby and Farmington will be holding a Hazardous Waste collection on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT. The collection will run from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Residents may dispose of items including compact and fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, lawn care chemicals, items containing Mercury, household cleaners, chemicals from the garage. In addition to hazardous waste disposal, Farmington is also offering free electronic recycling drop-off at the Farmington Town Hall 1, Monteith Drive. Thank you to Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works for offering this program. For more specific information, please contact the Simsbury Public Works at (860) 658-3222.

Simsbury Innovation Fair

The Innovation Fair is set for April 30th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with exhibits, activities and demonstrations at the Simsbury Public Library, the Historical Society and Simsbury High School. Check out cool activities and presentations including "Drones and How They Fly," keynote speaker, Jake Fisher – Director of Auto Testing at *Consumer Reports*, 3D printer demonstration, exhibits of local innovation, teen activities, children's activities, and activities for all ages. For complete details go to: Simsburyideas.com. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to bring this event to Simsbury!

Congratulations to Simsbury Chamber Awards Recipients

The Simsbury Chamber of Commerce will recognize the achievements of four individuals at its Annual Leadership Awards Luncheon and Meeting to be held May 26, 2016 at The North House, 1 Nod Road, Avon. The recipients include our very own Bob Hensley who will receive the "2016 Business Leader of the Year Award" will be presented to Robert Hensley, of Robert Hensley & Associates, LLC, for his myriad contributions to the Town of Simsbury, the surrounding communities, and the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce. "Public Servant of the Year" awards will be given to Peter Askham and Nicholas Mason for all of their many years of service on the Town of Simsbury's Board of Finance. Finally, our congratulations to Bryan Forman, a Technology Education teacher at Henry James Memorial School, who is receiving the Chamber's "2016 Educator of the Year" Award.

Members of the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce, their guests and the public are invited to attend the luncheon, beginning at 11:30 A. M. For further information, or to purchase tickets, go to the Simsbury Chamber "Events" page at www.simsburycoc.org